

(Logo + Intro about UiO and SAI)

PhD Candidate in Social Anthropology

Job Description

Applications are invited for one Research Fellowship as PhD Candidate in Social Anthropology to be based at the Department of Social Anthropology, University of Oslo.

The position will be part of the research project “Global trout: investigating environmental change through more-than human world systems”, led by Professor Knut G. Nustad (University of Oslo) and Associate Professor Heather Swanson (Aarhus University), and funded by the Research Council of Norway.

The Project

How can we better bring the spatial and scalar insights of the humanities to bear on questions of global environmental change? This original basic research project seeks to address the above question by exploring how scholarship on scale in anthropology can help us rethink the 'global' of global environmental problems through ethnographic research. It takes the widespread introduction of rainbow trout as its case. Non-native trout are a 'global' problem: Distributed to all corners of the world as part of European colonial efforts, introduced trout have reconfigured ecologies and social formations in each location they have come to live. However, they have done so in remarkably different ways. The project examines trout worlds in four primary locations (UK, Japan, South Africa, and Patagonia) with the goal of studying the sites as an interconnected meshwork of trout and human relations. Research at each location explores both site specificities and cross-site connections through 1) exploration of histories of colonial trout introductions and 2) how people and other species currently live with the effects of introduced trout. Theoretically, the project's approach expands the tools of world systems analysis by bringing them into dialogue with multispecies ethnography. In doing so, it develops a new mode of collaborative ethnography for studying global connections.

More about the position

The candidate will, together with the supervisors, be responsible for the Great Britain part of the project. Research should focus on how trout introductions have changed Euro-American 'metropole' watersheds and political formations as fish are moved among and within so-called metropolises as well as between metropole and colonies. One of the key goals of this sub-project is to upend the notion that 'core' trout areas, like Britain, are only trout exporters – places that remain unchanged by trout globalization – by documenting how colonial relations have reconfigured British trout worlds.

The proposed project should commence in September 2019.

The position is either for a period of three years (with no compulsory work), or for a period of four years including compulsory work (primarily teaching). A decision regarding the duration of employment will be made by the Department Board upon appointment to the position and in light of the Department's teaching needs.

The research fellow must take part in the Faculty's approved PhD program and is expected to complete the project within the set fellowship period. The main purpose of the fellowship is research training leading to the successful completion of a PhD degree.

The applicant must, in collaboration with her/his supervisor, within three months after employment, have worked out a complete project description to be attached to the application for admission to the doctoral program. For more information, please see our [web site](#).

Qualification requirements

Applicants should hold a 2-year Master's degree or equivalent, in social anthropology; other degrees in related disciplines can be considered.

Knowledge of and research experience with the following areas will be given weight:

Colonial histories, globalization, multispecies anthropology, conservation projects, introduced species. Knowledge of trout and sports fishing (preferably in the research area described) is an advantage.

Excellent academic English language skills are required, and enthusiasm for group-work is a must. The fellow will be expected to conduct approximately 12 months of ethnographic fieldwork and is strongly encouraged to spend 3 months abroad as a visitor at another academic institution. The fellow is expected to be in residence in Oslo during the remainder of the position.

In assessing the applications, special emphasis will be placed on the project description, as well as the applicant's academic and personal prerequisites to carry out the project. A good match between the candidate's proposal and the project's planned activities and areas of focus is a main selection criterion, along with the quality of the proposal and the qualifications of the candidate.

We offer

How to apply

Formal regulations

Contact information